



Information for Community Partners

Thank you for becoming your public/school library's partner in **My First Books**. The Idaho Commission for Libraries has established the following outcomes for the children and families participating in My First Books.

1. **Participating children increase their access to books by starting a home library.**
2. **More underserved families have library cards and use the public library.**
3. **Participating children increase early literacy skills.**
4. **Parents of participating children increase their knowledge about early literacy.**
5. **Parents of participating children increase home literacy activities.**
6. **Libraries strengthen community partnerships.**

What partners can do to help us meet these outcomes:

- **Meet with your library representative** before the first distribution to determine dates, time and activities.
- If appropriate, **ask parents to sign a permission form** to photograph their child for program reports and publicity.
- **Stay in the classroom or center** with your children and **actively participate** in the activities and book distributions. Please do not use the library's visit as a Prep Time.
- Work with your library representative on ways to **reinforce the early literacy skills** that will be featured in the book distribution activities.
- Make sure the **monthly family newsletter *The Bookworm* goes home** with the children.
- **Help promote library usage** with the parents of the children you serve.
- Collaborate with your library representative to **help plan a My First Books Parent Workshop or My First Books Family Event**.
- Brainstorm ways to help **publicize this event** to your parents and maximize their attendance.
- Help **distribute and collect parent surveys** in April/May and turn them in to your library representative. The surveys will be printed on colored paper to help them stand out.
- **Fill out the partner survey** and let us know how the project went from your perspective.

